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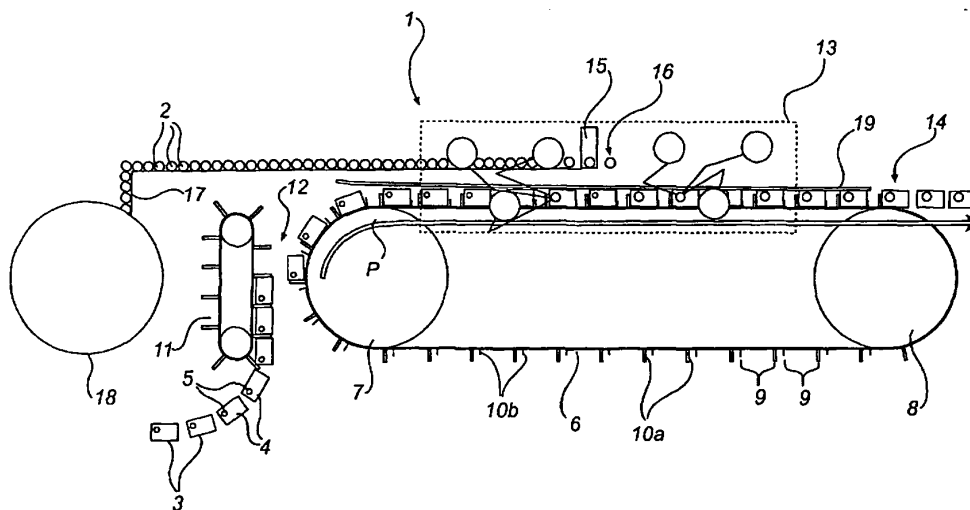
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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR APPLYING OPENING DEVICES ONTO PACKAGES



(57) Abstract: A system (14) and a method for applying opening devices (2) onto packages (3) of pourable food products are provided. The system comprises a package conveyor (6) for feeding the packages along a predetermined path (P) and an application apparatus (13) for applying the opening devices onto the packages on the package conveyor. The application apparatus comprises an optical detection unit (30) for detecting an application point on one of the packages (20) on the package conveyor. The application apparatus further comprises a pick and place unit (36) for receiving application information regarding the detected application point from the optical detection unit, picking one of the opening devices and placing it onto said one of the packages on the package conveyor by means of the application information.

WO 03/057460 A1

1/6

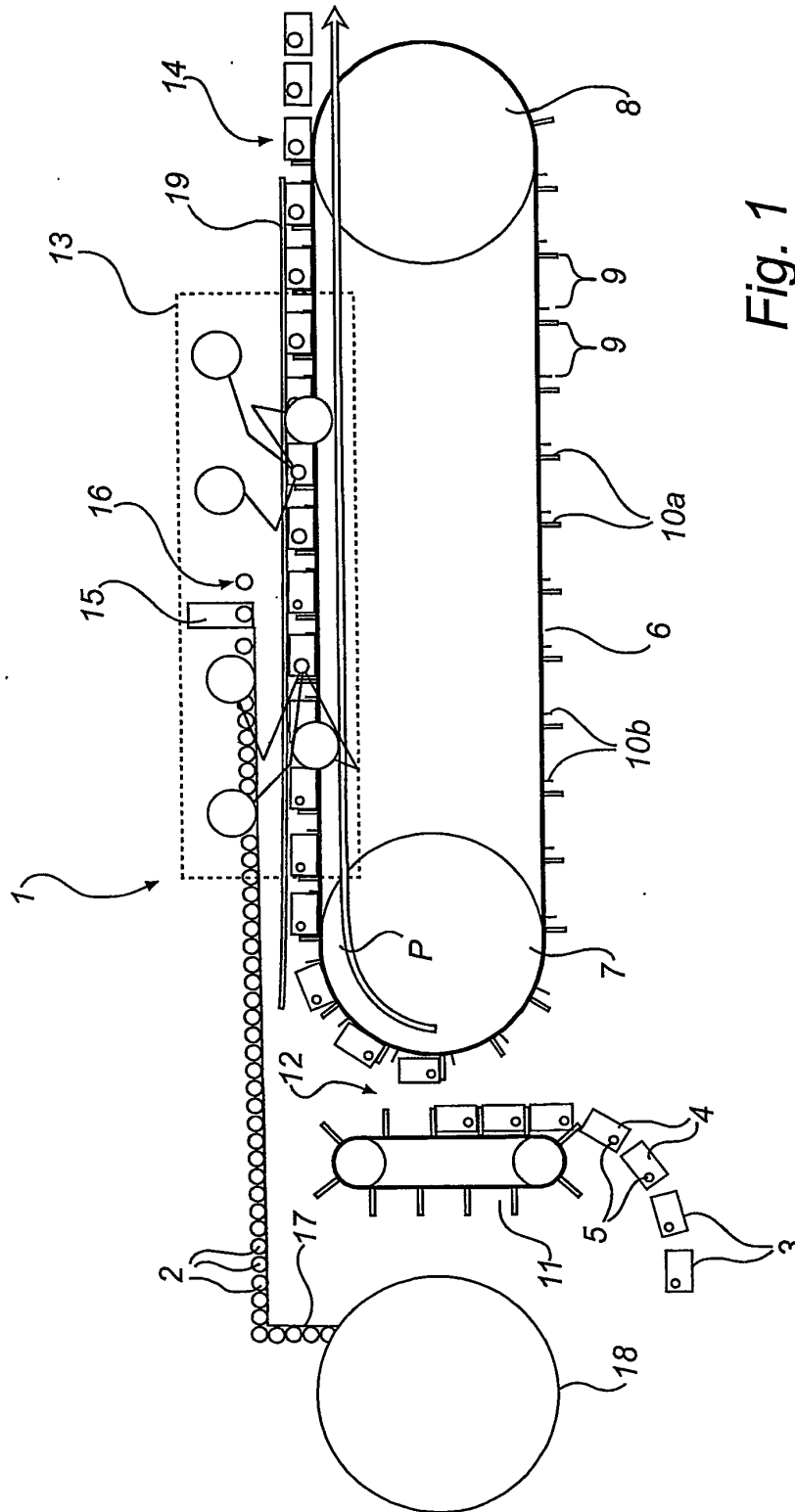
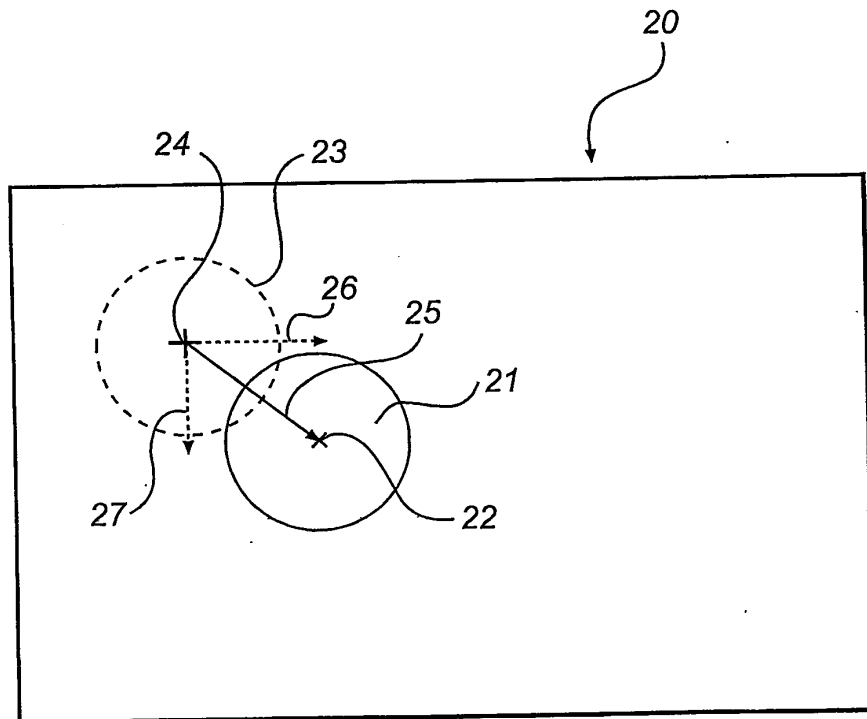


Fig. 1

2/6



*Fig. 2*

3/6

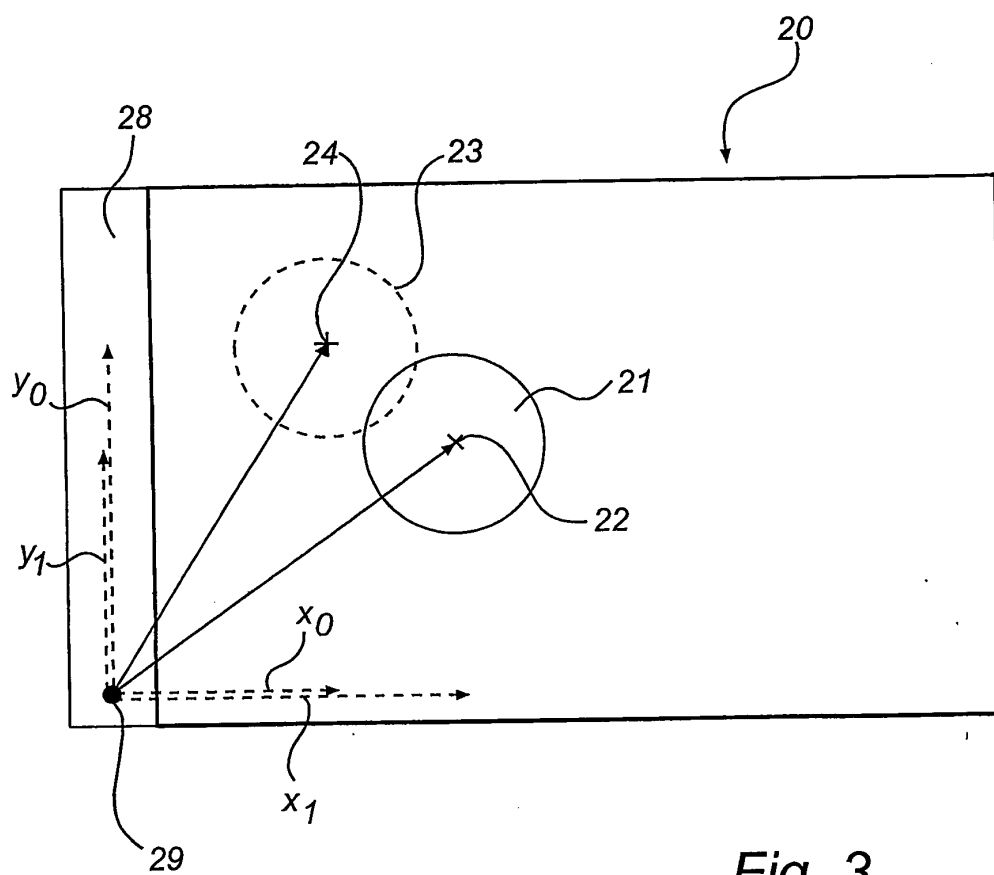


Fig. 3

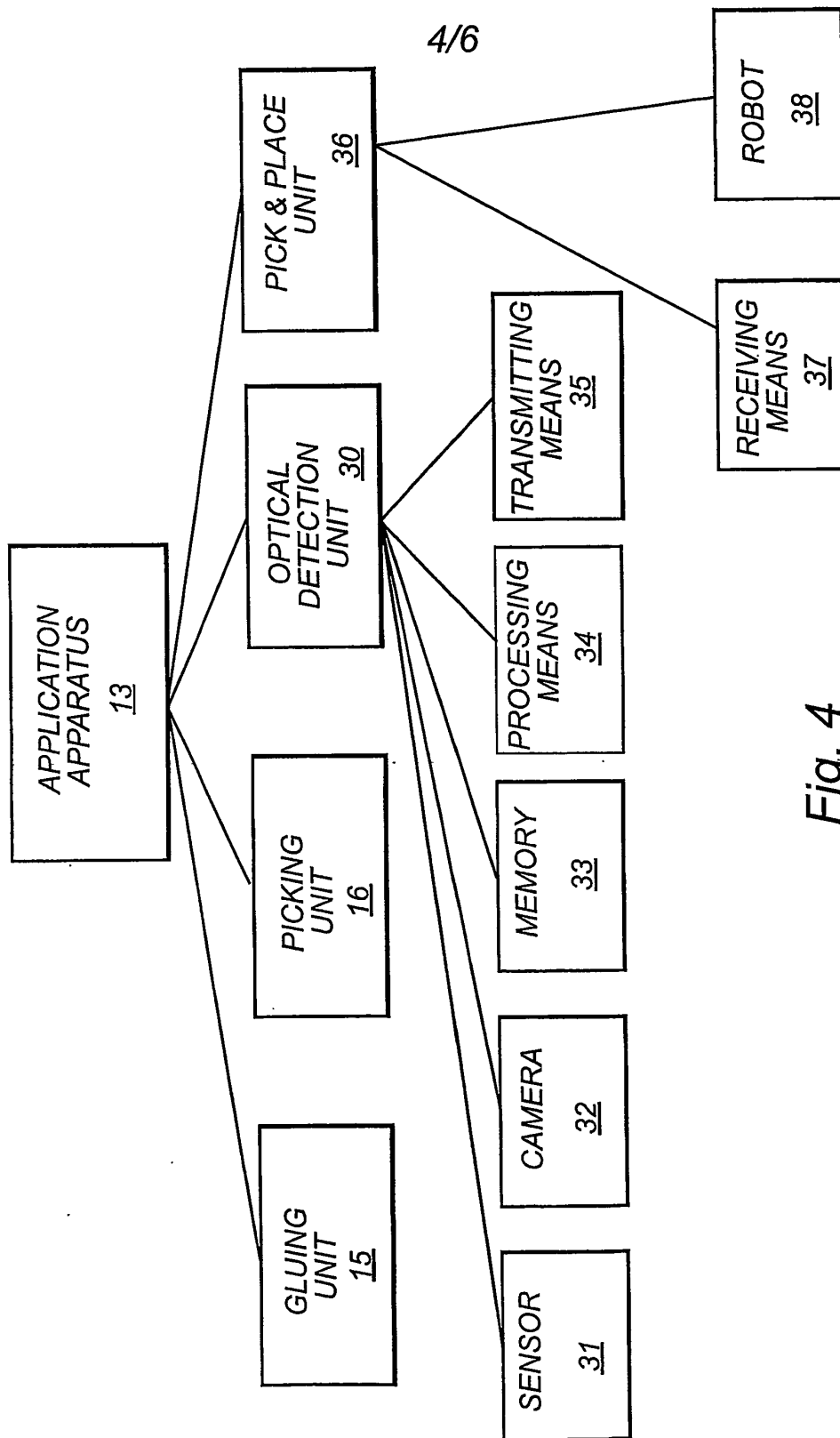


Fig. 4

5/6

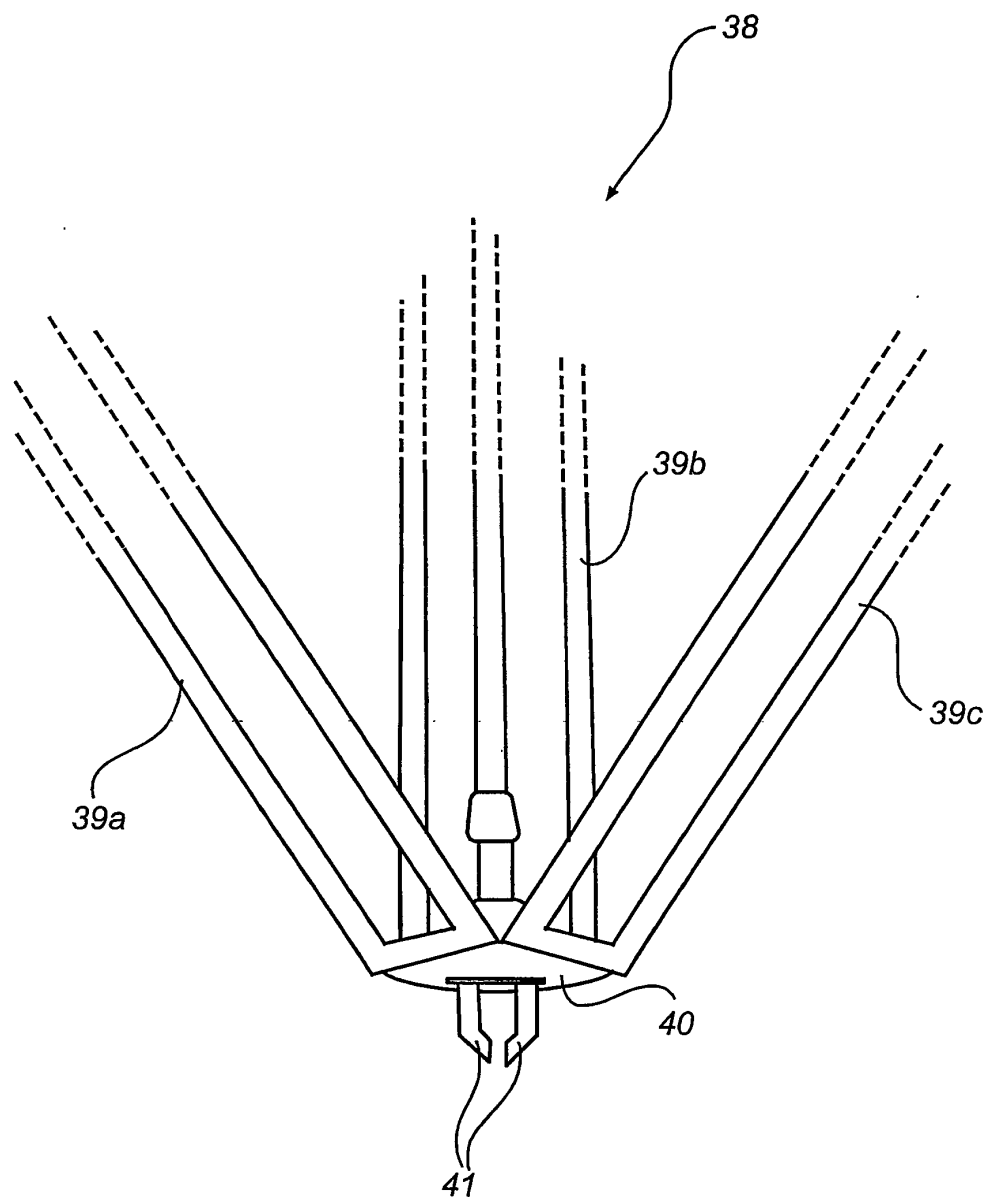


Fig. 5

6/6

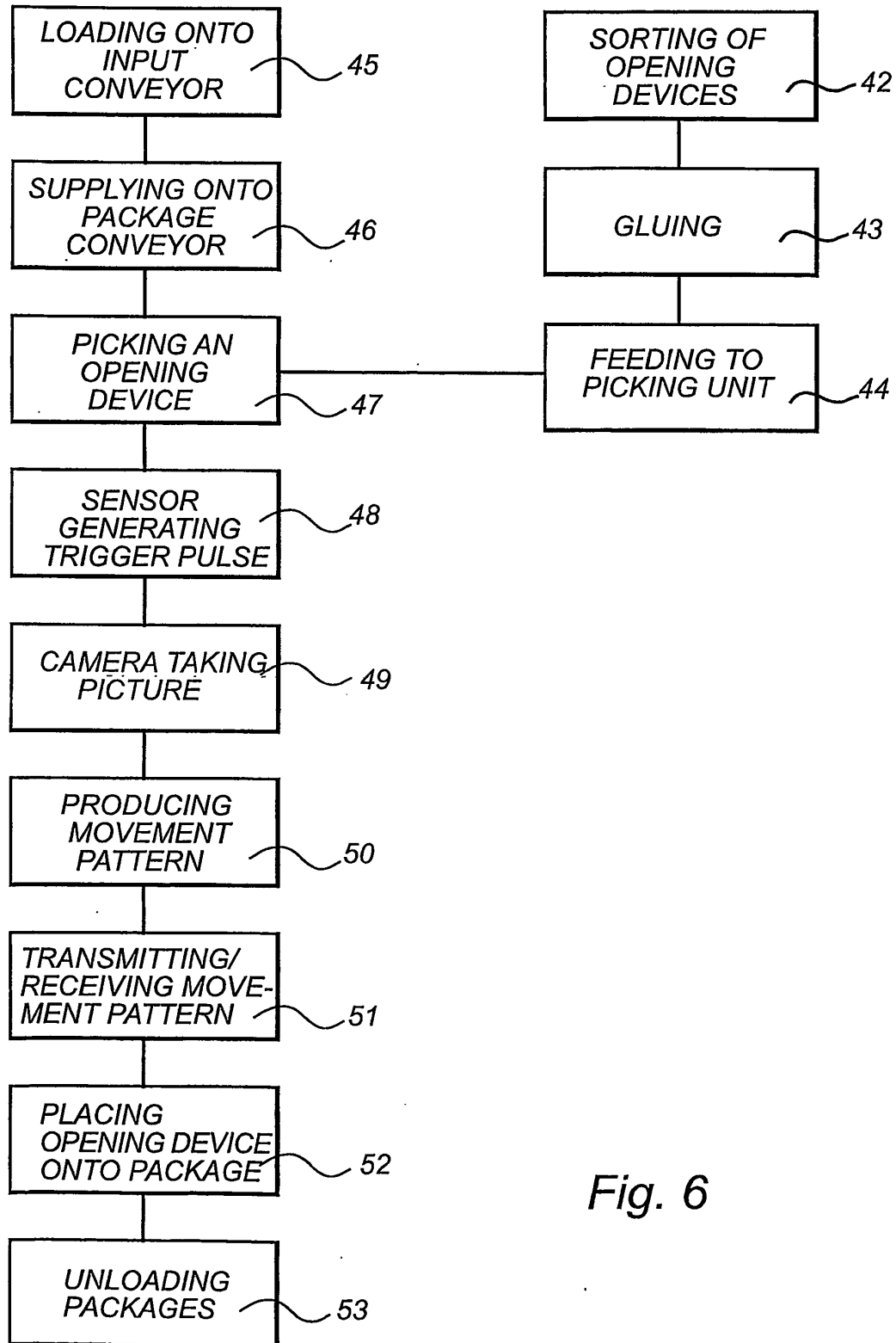


Fig. 6

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PCT/SE 99/02232

# A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC7: B31B 1/84, B65B 61/18

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC7: B31B, B65B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

SE,DK,FI,NO classes as above

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5484374 A (BACKNER ET AL), 16 January 1996 (16.01.96), column 16, line 54 - column 17, line 6 --	1-28
A	EP 0156192 A1 (TETRA PAK INTERNATIONAL AKTIEBOLAG), 2 October 1985 (02.10.85), figure 4 --	1-28
A	WO 9704953 A1 (PKL VERPACKUNGSSYSTEME GMBH), 13 February 1997 (13.02.97), abstract -- -----	1-28

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Information on patent family members

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